DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1849. NO. 16.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

SAVING MANURE.

IN the busy season of summer, the farmer will, generally, have but little time for making manure, by collecting and preparing various materials; but he should diligently attend to saving all manures produced by his animals, as, without care, there is a great loss, at this season, by the hot sun, drying winds, and occasionally drenching rains.

Allow animal manures to lie only a few months, exposed to these wasting influences, and more than half of their virtues will be dissipated. A little labor will save manure from waste, and pay fourfold the expense. Place the manure under shelter, or, if this cannot be done conveniently at this busy season, place it in the shade, as the rains of summer will not generally penetrate far into a heap. And to save the liquid part, and extend or divide the solid part, so as to prevent heating, mix loam, sand, or mud intimately with the manure. By adding mud, peat, muck, or clay with manure for dry lands, and sand, gravel, or light loam with that for clayey or wet lands, the texture of the soil will be permanently improved by the application.

When we consider that the farmers of New England are proverbial for their economy, we can hardly account for their allowing of so great a waste in manure. They would cautiously guard against the waste of a crop, even to the amount of a single dollar, or a dime, and yet they allow their manures to be wasted to the value of many dollars annually. If a hen, squirrel, bird, or any other small animal, is known to be feasting daily on the labors of the farmer, it is carefully guarded against, or the crop secured, to prevent the petty depredation.

But old Sol may pour his scorching rays upon the manure heap, the parching winds may carry off its fine gases, and the rains may pour in floods upon it, and carry off in solution its most valuable product; and all this is unheeded by thousands, yea, hundreds of thousands, of provident farmers — provident they intend to be, and so they are generally, but on this subject they have not reflected.

When cultivators have given this subject a thorough investigation, they will no more allow a waste of the materials that produce crops, than allow animals to devour crops without permission. We hope that every man who tills the soil will give this subject a candid examination, and act upon the light which must beam upon the reflecting mind; and the consequence will be a saving of manure to the amount of millions of dollars annually.

HAY CAPS.

Caps for the protection of hay are very convenient and economical, especially in changeable weather. Sometimes caps may be used several times in one season, and make sufficient saving to pay the whole expense in a single year. In some cases the amount saved in one storm has been sufficient to pay the whole expense. Caps will cost about thirty-three or forty cents apiece. By the use of one, a hundred of hay would sometimes be saved in excellent condition, which would be nearly worthless without such protection, making a saving of forty or fifty cents; and in some years of scarcity of hay, the saving would be, in a single instance, sixty or seventy cents to each cap, at once using. Besides saving hay from damage, there is a great saving of labor, as it requires much time to open and dry hay that has been wet in the heap; and the whole business of haying is expedited by the use of caps, and the hay is secured in better season, making a great saving in the quality of the last that is procured, which is often much injured by long standing. We hope that farmers will try this mode of securing hay, at least in a small way, that they may judge from experience.

Old canvas or sails are sometimes used for caps. Drilling, or close stout sheeting, is a convenient and excellent article for caps. Purchase that which is one yard and three or four inches wide, and make the caps of two pieces sowed together, about two and one fourth yards long, making the caps a little more than two yards each way. Two yards square will answer, but a quarter or half in addition is better.

Turn up the corners one or two inches, and sew them; into these loops put a line or cord, with a loop

about two inches long, and fasten down the corners with small sticks, about twenty inches long, run upward into the hay. Put up the hay in cocks, as usual, when a storm is expected, having it pretty well elevated in the centre, that the cap may throw off the water, which it will shed like an umbrella.

Farmers who have never used hay caps, and have doubts as to their utility and economy, would better have them made the size of sheets; and a little careful usage will not injure them, and the storms will whiten them, and when haying is over, the good housewife will find a use for them.

NEWLAND'S STRAWBERRY.

Many strawberry plants were sold in this section last year, and early in this season, under the assuming and imposing name of "*George Newland's Celebrated Mammoth Alpine Strawberry*," purporting to be a new and superior variety from Palmyra, N. Y.

Many persons, who have tried these strawberries, pronounce the transaction an imposition, as the strawberries are small, and unworthy of cultivation, bearing a strong resemblance to the Wood strawberry. One person remarks that he lost ten dollars by setting this variety. Whether thorough experiments have been made or not, we cannot tell. We set a very few plants rather late, and have not had an opportunity to judge of their merits, excepting we can confirm the general statement that they resemble the Wood.

We give this notice as a caution to those who are too ready to believe great stories and become the dupes of imposition. The exaggerated accounts of this strawberry ought to have convinced every one of common experience that they were misstatements, for there is no strawberry in the world that is equal to what is claimed for this.

The great evil of such deceptions is, that they retard improvement. If the agricultural community are occasionally gulled in this way, they grow cautious about receiving articles of superior merit, even on good authority. They are led to think that the extra price is a sign of imposition.

POTATOES.

Though this is not the time of year to put it in practice, yet it is the time to see the evil effects of other plans, and therefore I mention it now. I believe I got the idea from some one of your correspondents, some years since. When you get up the potatoes in autumn, instead of putting them in hogs, or pies, as they are called, mark out in a level place ground three feet wide, level it about two or three inches above the surface, spread your potatoes upon it one layer thick, then put two inches of soil, then a layer of potatoes, then soil, and so on, gradually coming up to a ridge. At first a very slight quantity of soil will do; but before winter sets in, they require a covering of six inches, and some fern or litter over all in frost. This plan seems tedious, but is in reality done as quickly as hogging, or very nearly so. It keeps the potatoes excellent to eat, preserves them from rot better than any plan, and for seed nothing can beat it. I have been planting the last fortnight, and the seed taken out of these earth hogs is just as it was when taken out of the ground in autumn, the eyes just showing, and the skin fresh, healthy, and bright. My gardener had a great prejudice against this plan at first, but now, after three years' practice, says there is nothing like it. I believe it does much to invigorate the potato plant, as there is no vital force lost in pushing sprouts. I am aware that gardeners often keep their early kidney seed in outhouses, &c., upon this plan, but this cannot be done with a large quantity for field culture, added to which, I find the potatoes keep much better, both for eating and seed, than when spread in a cellar, on a granary floor, or packed in barrels. — *English Paper.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — The foregoing method, or some similar plan, is followed for the preservation of potatoes in some sections of Pennsylvania, and in other mild regions, without any regard to the rot, as it has long been in practice. In this section, the cold is too severe for this mode, unless unusual pains are taken to heap up the earth or litter over the potatoes.

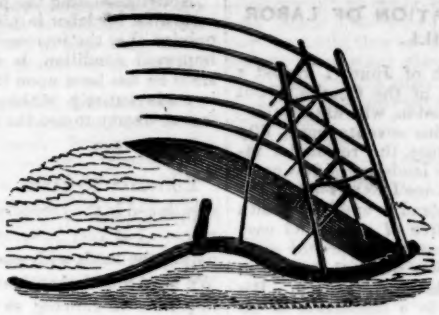
HINTS ON HARVESTING WHEAT.

As the time for harvesting wheat is fast approaching, I submit the following suggestions, through your paper, to the wheat-growers of this country. I am one of those who believe it best to cut wheat just so soon as it will do — that is, when it is "in the dough," as we term it. Having two neighbors, some five years ago, both thriving farmers, one contended for cutting wheat when in the dough state, while the other as firmly contended that it should stand at least a week longer, until it was thoroughly ripe. At that time, I thought them both on extremes; but in the harvest of 1845, I determined to test the matter by a fair trial. Accordingly, in a field containing ten acres, I cut and shocked up six acres in one day when in the dough, letting the other four acres stand one week longer before I cut it. The result was, the first cut stood up well in the shock, the straw being stiff and the heads straight. In the second case, nearly all the shocks fell down, (there happened a storm of wind and rain before it would do to thresh,) in consequence of the straw being broken and limber, and the heads being curled. The last cut was more damaged by the rain than the first. I then threshed it out of the shock, keeping it separate; and on comparing the two, the first cut showed a plump, clear-looking grain — the last, a grain somewhat shrunk, and of a darker brown color. When made into flour, the latter showed a yellowish cast, while the former was almost as white as snow. The first cut did not shatter out and waste in handling, like the latter. The straw of the first was bright, and equal to hay to feed cattle on in winter, while the latter was comparatively worthless. By what natural process the sap ascends the stalk after it is cut, so as to prevent the grain from shrinking, I leave for the scientific to determine. It is a well-known fact among farmers, that Indian corn cut and shocked up after the blades are entirely dry, will turn bright and be good feed for cattle — from the substance remaining in the stalk, I suppose.

Hartsville, 1849. C. S.

— *Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper.*

If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write things worth reading or do something worth writing.



GRAIN CRADLE.

This is truly a labor-saving implement, doing work in a neat manner, in good hands, and with great expedition, having decided advantages over the sickle, with its slow, tedious, back-aching operation. The gain in despatching the harvesting of grain is not merely in doing it at less expense, but often the greatest advantage is in performing it in the very nick of time, and thereby saving grain from a storm, or standing too late.

Frequently all the grain on the farm needs to be cut at the same time, when all the help usually employed could not do it with the sickle, in proper season; and this saving, by expedition, in the use of this valuable implement, should be taken into consideration as highly important.

Grant's and Wilcox's premium cradles are regarded as the best now in use. They are neat, light, strong, and made very convenient by adjustable fingers, so that the operator can regulate them to suit himself, which renders these modern improvements far superior to the old cradles, with all their parts and proportions permanently fixed.

THE CROPS.

The Sunbury (Pa.) Gazette says, that in that vicinity there will be a more abundant crop of wheat, rye, oats, and grass, than for many years. The potatoes, too, will yield well, and corn has much improved.

THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESS.

Large as are the strides, and splendid as are the triumphs of the spirit of progress in the nineteenth century, she still numbers her enemies by thousands. Chinese walls and Chinese hatred to improvement still hold some sway among many of our people. They love and would foster "the good old way!" Why, in the meridian time of "the good old way," ships required months to perform a voyage from Liverpool to New York; now, the winds and tides, held in vassalage by the spirit of progress, waft the vessel from world to world in a single fortnight! By "the good old way," a bark was polled and coaxed from New York to Albany in twenty days; now, the superb vessel asks but ten hours to accomplish the same journey! According to "the good old way," a press which could strike off a thousand newspapers in a night was viewed in a light but little removed from the marvellous; now, a press in the same time hurls from its great iron hands fifty thousand sheets! By "the good old way," nice old ladies, who happened to be blessed with ugliness and black cats, were hung up or drowned as witches; now, our nice old ladies are honored only less than our handsome young ladies! By "the good old way," monarchs were clad, by even Americans, in the light of divinity; and now, the Yankee

"Would shake hands with the king upon his throne,
And think it kindness to his majesty."

By "the good old way," Columbus would slumber an unknown man in an unknown grave. But the spirit of progress pointed his ardent eyes to another world, baptized by another sea, in the far-off Hesperides; and that race which is the crown of humanity, now swarm on the fertile soil of that new earth, to chain matter to the car of civilization, illumine mankind with the beams of liberty, and send hoary errors crumbling away in the awful shadow of reform. When you can bind the wing of the eagle with a cobweb, when you can stop the world in its motion by a priestly dictum, then attempt to arrest the giant of progress in his majestic career. He who does attempt it before these labors have been accomplished, must only be crushed himself beneath his mighty feet. — *Selected.*

INDIAN CORN.

We ventured a prediction, two weeks ago, that the exports of Indian corn during the month of June, would exceed the quantity of the same article shipped in the month of June, in the memorable year of 1847, when prices ranged from eighty-eight cents to one dollar seventeen cents per bushel. The official statement of the exports for the month of June have appeared in the New York shipping list, and the quantity of corn exported is stated at 1,287,369 bushels, greater by 550,486 bushels than was shipped in the month of June, 1847, and greater, we believe, than was ever shipped in any previous month. Yet great as this amount is, it is but a tithe of the quantity of grain imported monthly into Great Britain, to which country almost the entire of our exports of breadstuffs tend. — *Albany Argus.*

True glory consists in doing what deserves to be written, writing what deserves to be read, and making the world happier and better for having lived in it.

For the New England Farmer.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION OF LABOR AND SKILL.

Mr. Editor: On the 30th of June, I visited a friend, living on the banks of the Charles, about twenty miles south-west of Boston, who has occupied his farm six years. It contains seventy acres, fifty of which are tillage and pasture, the remainder interval and meadow. The low lands are of first quality, and yield grass in abundance for the feed of the stock. The surface of the upland is uneven — soil a mixture of sand and clay, free of stone, and easy of cultivation. When the present proprietor came in possession, the produce was small, the pastures were run out, and of course the stock reduced. His attention was first directed to a renovation of his pastures.

This was done by means of the plough, and the application of compost manure. He has spared no effort to increase manure in every way possible. His swine have been co-laborers in this department. Pastures that were covered with dry moss and wild bushes, are now blooming with white clover. Nearly all his pasture ground has been reclaimed. His fields have been made productive of a large burden of grass, by the use of the subsoil plough and manure. Where this plough has been used, the beneficial effects are most apparent. The land endures the drought much better than the adjoining land. We have often heard this stated, but never saw it so distinctly illustrated as in his fields at the present time. The difference is as great, as is usually seen on adjoining pieces, where a coating of manure has been spread on one, and not on the other.

Our attention was directed particularly to his stock. He has seven cows, and several heifers coming forward. Some of his cows are old, but all of them appear to be superior animals. We were informed by his daughter, who takes the charge of the dairy, that these cows yielded, during the month of June, two hundred and fifty pounds of butter, beside the milk and cream used by a family of twelve persons. This, we think, speaks well for the cows, and the pastures in which they feed.

We noticed one heifer, now about to have a second calf, and learned that she will be three years old in October. This animal, when young, was fed entirely on hay and water, and not on milk and grass, as is usual. Her size is large, and she appears like a cow four years old. She is a fine animal for milk, as was her mother before her. Among these cows are indications of the Durham, Ayrshire, and Devon blood, but in what proportions we are not informed. They are all reputed to be natives; and so far as milking properties are concerned, we think as well of native blood as any other.

The fences on the farm are of wood, except those bordering on the highway — consequently easily moved. The lots are alternated from year to year — sometimes cultivated with corn or potatoes, sometimes mowed, and sometimes fed as pasture. But little attention appeared to be given to the raising of beets, carrots, and onions — crops with which we have been familiar, and which we think could be raised on these lands to advantage.

Within the six years last past, the crops on the farm have trebled in amount. But the best effect of all is seen upon the younger members of the family, four or five of which are able to labor to advantage. The eldest daughter, now about twenty, takes the entire charge of making and preparing the butter for the market. Others at this time are gathering and preparing straw for bonnets. The father and sons are laboring together in the field. Having spent the better part of his life in pointing out to others the way to heaven, he now feels it to be his duty to provide for himself and family on earth.

Notwithstanding the proprietor has realized a fair return for his labor in his annual crops, he is of the opinion that the increased value of the farm, in its improved condition, is equal to one dollar a day since he has been upon it. As this communication is made entirely without his knowledge, I do not feel at liberty to use the name of the proprietor.

July 3, 1849. P.

Editorial Remarks. — One mode of improvement mentioned in the preceding communication generally receives but very little attention, and that is alternating the lands with pasturage, mowing, and tillage. We have found that lands, exhausted by pasturing, improved on mowing, so that the grass crop would be more than double the second or third year, and far exceed other lands adjacent, that had been treated the same in past years, excepting they had been mowed for a number of years. On mowing the pasture lands, the grasses become greatly changed after the first year; the pasture grasses disappeared, and those most common in mowing prevailed.

The lands that had become exhausted from mowing, on being pastured, produced more and sweeter feed than those that had been long in pasture; and yet all were under the same treatment previous to one being pastured and the other mowed. The superiority of the feed, on lands recently changed from mowing to pasturing, is seen by animals eating it closely to the ground, while much of the grass on the old pasture is neglected, and if not closely pastured, going to seed.

The great advantage in these changes is in the rotation of crops. Take a piece of land, all in the same condition, and in the same grasses, and mow one part and pasture another for ten or twenty years, and then mow the whole, and the grasses on the two parts, during the first year, will be almost entirely different. But on mowing or pasturing for a number of years, they will gradually assimilate to each other.

Alternating with tillage makes a further rotation of crops, as the crops differ materially from grasses, and extract different elements from the soil, and are, of course, less exhausting to grasses than grasses themselves, or a long succession of grasses.

For the New England Farmer.

STRAWBERRIES.

Mr. Editor: At a late exhibition of the Berkshire Horticultural Society, there were many splendid boquets of rich and fragrant flowers, and rare specimens of early fruit; but we saw nothing that attracted more attention than a measure of Hovey's seedling strawberries, from the garden of Mr. Pomeroy, of Pittsfield. Every eye sparkled with delight at the sight of them, and if mouths would tell the truth, we have no doubt but all mouths would say they watered for a taste of their excellency. Yet how many, may it be supposed, will actually set themselves to work, after thus seeing and longing to possess, to raise *just such strawberries* in quantities to meet the demands of their household? "I have no time for such things," "I never had any luck with a garden, and I have given up trying" are household excuses ready to fall from the lips of the majority, in regard

to which it may be proper to say, that a less amount of time is actually necessary to raise strawberries enough for an abundant supply of this fruit for *any family*, than would be required to wander over the fields, (we say nothing of loss in trampling down grass,) to obtain a meagre quantity of an inferior article.

In regard to luck in this business, it is pretty much here as with every thing else, — good luck cannot be expected without care and pains. It is a wise provision of Providence that requires us to labor for the blessings we invoke, and one that holds good in small as well as large matters. A strawberry plant will not grow successfully if thrown carelessly into the ground, to be choked with grass or more rapid growing weeds. Land for them must be light, that they may root easily, and rich, that they may draw continual nourishment from it, especially in fruiting time. Moisture is very necessary to insure perfect success. Muck lands are highly favorable to their growth, and where nature has not provided them, cultivators will find advantage in giving frequent dressings from the swamp.

It is often said that the strawberry is so apt to winterkill, that its culture is attended with great risk. This may be remedied by covering them with pine or hemlock boughs soon after the ground freezes, and allowing them to remain covered until the freezings and thawings of the season are past. They may then be taken off, the ground manured and forked, and then, if kept free from weeds, abundant crops of great delicious berries may be expected.

W. B.

July, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — There is great neglect, generally, in our country, in raising the smaller fruits, though they are highly delicious and easily produced. Some farmers are content with apples, and even those not the best; others have a few cherries, or plums; and some have a supply of pears, and perhaps of peaches. Yet few, very few indeed, have a general supply of small fruits. They require but little land and attention, and the farmer generally has more land than he improves; and a few spare minutes daily, or a few hours weekly, would be sufficient to attend to raising an assortment of small luscious fruits for the family.

It often happens that some members of the family have a plenty of time for this purpose, and would attend to the business with great pleasure, and with much profit by way of instruction, if the subject was introduced and the way prepared for it.

For the New England Farmer.

PRESERVATION OF TIMBER.

Mr. Editor: In your last number, (June 23d,) you take notice of experiments made in England, for the preservation of wood, by soaking in lime-water. I have no doubt but it will answer the purpose very well, although I never saw it tried; but while I was living in the east of Scotland, we were in want of some clothes posts. Having some large fine beech-trees recently cut, we thought of trying them, but were afraid they would not stand long, beech being a wood that is very liable to rot, when wet and dry alternately. There was a pond on the plantation, into which we put a quantity of oak and larch bark mixed. When the bark had been in the pond eight or ten days, being stirred up three or four times during that period, the timber being sawn eight or ten inches square, and the length required, they were immersed for three months, being taken out once a fortnight and turned during that time. It was then piled up till properly dried. It formed a crust so hard that a plane would hardly act upon it; and I have no doubt they are good now, although it is now sixteen years since they were put up. The posts were placed into a stone socket, four inches from the ground. Any one near a tannery can easily try the experiment.

J. C.

June 27, 1849.

For the New England Farmer.

FRUIT, ETC.

Mr. Editor: I have taken some pains to form a company to take your New England Farmer, and I believe it gives good satisfaction. As far as agriculture and horticulture are concerned, it is the very thing a farmer wants; and for myself, I cannot make it interesting to read a long story, and when I have read them, they are of no benefit. I have also got one of your Fruit Books, which I think is appropriately named "a book for every body." It really ought to be in every family in town. Willington is truly a reading people; but I am constrained to say they read a great deal on party politics and romance, which are not profitable. Could our people take a deeper interest in horticulture, it would confer a great blessing on the present and rising generations. I am now in my sixty-seventh year, and yet I take a great interest in the cultivation of fruit. Three years ago last spring, I set some Baldwin scions on a tolerable large tree, but did not expect to live to see them bear fruit; but should the apples now set prosper, there will be fruit next fall.

I must say, however, our people are beginning to wake up on the subject of fruit growing. There has probably been more done in the two past years, than in twenty years previous.

I have more than thirty children and grandchildren, all living within twenty miles. Two years ago last spring, I set out an orchard of about seventy-five trees, of the best kinds, in complete rows, all numbered, and they are growing finely. The orchard stands on a high elevation, well adapted to the apple tree. I have taken so much interest in this young orchard, that I have erected a stone monument with this inscription — "Set out by Amos Preston, 1847."

Perhaps I might have been influenced to this by reading, in the Albany Cultivator, about the monument erected where the old Baldwin apple-tree grew in Woburn, in your state. I have a number of that variety in my young orchard. I hope my posterity, by the blessing of God, may be permitted to eat of the fruit that their father and grandfather has taken so much pains to introduce and propagate.

Now, a few questions and I shall conclude. I said this orchard is on an elevation: it is therefore hard getting manure on to it from my barn; but there is swamp manure near by, that would be convenient to get to the orchard. I have laid away two horses by the side of the lot, and covered them with swamp muck, a layer of muck, then of horse, and so on. They were put there last August. Now, I wish to know when the manure will be fit to use; and whether I cannot benefit the orchard by this manure. Shall I spread it broadcast over the whole lot, or not? Does not Dana say that it has been actually proved, "that a dead horse will convert twenty tons of peat into manure more lasting than stable dung?" This is a great story. How much discount shall be made?

I read also in your paper, No. 12, concerning manure made from tan, by Robert Bryson, Esq., of Cumberland county, Pa. As we have a quantity of tan, we should like to make the best of it. If there is any way you can get information from Mr. Bryson, himself, I should be very glad. My son has a tan-

yard. It has been in the name of Preston more than eighty years. We have made use of it in a small way, and I believe we may improve upon it.

AMOS PRESTON.

WILLINGTON, CT., *July*, 1849.

EDITORIAL REMARKS. — Mr. Preston shows a noble example in planting for posterity; and had he not done it himself, his children should erect a monument to the memory of a kind parent, who labored zealously in his advanced age for their welfare. We hope that he will enjoy a green old age, and share with his numerous descendants the happy results of his industry. Contrast his commendable example with that of the selfish churl who will not plant, even in the meridian of life, lest others reap; though he does not scruple to reap what others have sown.

In managing his orchard, we would advise Mr. Preston to keep it ploughed, and not take off crops, unless the land is well manured. Let swamp muck lie over winter, after dug up, that freezing and exposure may improve it, then add ashes, or lime, or both, in small or liberal quantities, according to the expense. If it has been improved by exposure, as we have recommended, it will be fit to use in a month or two, or it may remain for months. It will be better for being forked over.

The more dead horses there are cut up and mixed with it the better. If horses are cut into rather small pieces, and mixed with muck, and the heap is forked over once or twice, the manure will be fit to use after lying the greater part of one warm season. After forking over the heap, apply some more muck, or some loam on the top and sides, lest some pieces of flesh come to the outside and become dissipated, wasting the manure and infecting the air.

There will be the greatest gain from the manure, by applying it under the trees, or a little wider than the branches extend. It should be ploughed in, that it may come near the roots, and if it contains any animal substance, it should be buried, to prevent loss by the escape of gases.

When an orchard is too far from the barn to haul manure to it, so as to make it rich for the production of other crops, it is best to pasture it with sheep, or young animals that are not taken out by night: then nearly all the food that they consume is applied in manure to aid in keeping up the fertility of the soil, and from small animals it is scattered over the land. This is far better than mowing, as we have often found by experience. And the consumption of fallen fruit is a great protection against insects.

Spent tan, put in layers with lime or wood ashes, will become decomposed in a few years, so as to be an excellent manure for fruit trees. After lying many years, not in very large or deep heaps, and becoming decomposed, it would be a good manure without any other substance. We have raised large crops on lands on which old hemlock-trees, bark and all, decayed, and the land was far richer where such trees decayed.

As to the discount on the statement proposed, we say it should be liberal, but cannot define the exact percentage. A cord of horse-flesh, with one or two bushels of lime, or ten bushels of ashes, mixed with a few cords of muck, would make excellent manure. But we think there would be no advantage in scattering the remains of one old horse, especially a poor one, and such are usually used for manure, through twenty tons of muck.

HOUSES OF UNBURNT BRICK.

Within the last five or six years, this style of buildings has been pretty extensively introduced into the Western States, especially in Illinois and Iowa. Houses constructed of this material were supposed to combine many advantages that were possessed by no other mode of erecting walls, and consequently there were many enthusiasts found, who fancied they would ultimately supersede all other descriptions of buildings for farm-houses, and out-houses, for horses, cows, &c. In South America, Mexico, and in many countries on the continent of Europe, unburnt bricks have been employed in the construction of walls for houses, for a very long period of time, and it has been found that when pains were taken in the preparation of the material for the walls, they would successfully withstand the greatest severity of wet and cold for many generations. Walls of this description should not be raised higher than one story, and should be built upon a stone wall, raised at least thirty inches above the surface of the ground, and should either be protected by a widely projected roof or a verandah. The stucco or plastering should not be laid on the outside of the wall until it has had time to settle, and become perfectly dry. If the walls are built in the spring, the plastering might be put on in the following autumn; but it has been found best in most cases to delay the plastering until a twelvemonth from the period of the erection of the building. Sand of the coarsest and sharpest quality should be procured for the preparation of the mortar, and only a sufficient quantity of fresh-slacked lime, to firmly set the sand, should be employed in making the first coat, which, if put on in the month of October, or when the weather is moderately warm, will be perfectly free from cracks, and by the aid of a second coat of plastering, will prove, in most cases, impervious to water for a very long period of time.

Unburnt brick walls are admirably adapted for stables, and other out-buildings; but where stone can be conveniently procured, the latter should be preferred, as it is obvious they will make the most durable wall.

The following very practical remarks from the Prairie Farmer, on the subject, may be found interesting to a portion of our readers.

When this mode of building dwellings for our wet and cold climate of the north was proposed, some five or six years ago, we had very little faith in it. But when, at a later period, the opportunity was offered of examining houses so constructed, our opinion was modified considerably; and we have long been convinced that dwellings, of peculiar construction as to form, might be made of unburnt bricks, which would greatly reduce the cost of building, and would possess several excellences over those of any other construction.

There is no doubt, however, that attention must be paid to the form of the building when constructed of this material. A two-story house, with close Grecian cornice, is not a fitting shape for it. Water and frosts together have too convenient access to the walls, and will be pretty sure to act upon them, especially if the house should be provided with no spouts to carry off the roof water; nor, should these be added, would the matter be much mended.

The proper form of a house to be built of unburnt brick, is that of one story, or perhaps story and a half

cottages; with a wall from twelve to fifteen feet high. with sharp roof and largely projecting eaves, so as to throw off all water from the walls, and preserve them dry. If a good high stone foundation is laid, there need be no difficulty — these preliminaries being adhered to — in securing a good house.

The last number of Ranlett's Architect contains some valuable hints as to detail in constructing of this material. The size of the bricks may be 6 × 12 × 18, or 9 × 12 × 18, or 12 × 12. The second size will be found quite heavy to handle. In laying up the bricks, we should prefer lime mortar to that made of clay. It will aid in causing the covering cement to adhere. But hear Mr. Ranlett.

"Any soil will be found suitable for making bricks to be dried in the sun, except sand or gravel, and can usually be obtained in making the excavation for the cellar of a house. A proportion of two parts clay or loam to one of sand or fine gravel, and of straw, about one hundred pounds, cut in lengths of five or six inches to three hundred and fifty bricks; the clay should be removed to a level spot, and mixed by treading with oxen or horses, which can be done in two or three hours. A better material even than straw, to mix with the clay, when it can be obtained, is salt hay, on account of its toughness and durability. We have seen it used, in mixing mortar, in place of hair.

The moulds for the bricks should be made of boards, strongly fastened at the corners, and holes bored in the bottom to facilitate the discharge of the brick; when placed to dry, the bricks should be laid upon their sides, and dry sand sprinkled upon them to prevent them from cracking in the sun; in two or three days turn them upon the edge, and let them remain three or five days, according to the power of the sun, when they should be piled up so as to admit of a free circulation of air, and protected from the rain. In two weeks they will be fit for use. If a cellar is to be made, the wall should be of stone, and two feet of the top laid of lime mortar or cement: the latter would prevent dampness. In laying the bricks, clay mortar may be used, but mortar of lime and sand would do better. The roof should, in all cases, project from two to four feet, according to the height of the building. If one or two full stories, the roof may be flat; but if a story and a half, it must be high to relieve the lateral pressure on the walls. The coating or plastering on the outside of the walls should be of the best description; it may be made of equal parts of lime, ashes, sand, and clay, and thoroughly mixed with water, having a strong infusion of glauber salts." — *Ohio Cultivator.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — It seems to be the opinion of many in this part of the country, that unburnt brick houses will not endure the severe cold and sudden freezing and thawing incident to our climate. That the water getting into the cracks of the bricks, or soaking into them, and then frozen hard and suddenly, will cause the destruction of the building. Perhaps this evil may be prevented by the coat of water-proof cement applied to the walls.

The subject is worthy of consideration, especially in regions where clay abounds and fuel is scarce, and building materials are generally scarce and dear. We hope that some persons will try experiments in building with unburnt bricks. They will cost but a trifle, out-buildings or fences may be made in this way for trial.

Tart words make no friends: a spoonful of honey will catch more flies than a gallon of vinegar.

IMPROVED FENCE.

The friend of improvement in every thing, I deem it my especial duty to suggest to those who have lands to enclose, the propriety of making trial of a species of fence of which I have recently had a description, and which is said to be both cheap and efficient. The posts are made of common clay, struck in moulds of the desired size, and burnt in kilns, the same as bricks. These posts are perforated with holes of the size of a common pipe stem, and are either three or four in number, as required, and are made before burning, or in the mould. The posts are set in the soil, after receiving a coat of coal tar. Wires are then passed through the holes, from post to post, properly secured, and coated with coal tar or paint, to preserve the surface from atmospheric action, and prevent rust. This fence is cheap, looks well, and is very durable. B.

Bensalem, *May* 29, 1849.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

NEW MODE OF PREPARING BONES FOR MANURE.

There are several methods of preparing bones for application to land as manure. One is by calcination, or burning, by which all the organic matter is burned or driven off. This fits the mineral portion of the bones for immediate and efficient action in the soil, in consequence of reducing the bones to a minute state of division, and expelling the oil and gelatine, which, for a time, prevents decay. By this process, however, the animal matter is lost as manure. This amounts to thirty-five to fifty per cent. of the fresh bone according to the age of the animals supplying them, the youngest always giving the largest proportion of cartilage, oil, and gelatine.

Another method is by placing the bones in a compact heap or hogshead, first crushing them, and pouring over them, from one third to one half their weight of sulphuric acid, diluted with water. This generally effects a speedy decomposition of the bones, and augments the efficiency and intensity of their action, as the sulphuric acid is itself a powerful manure for certain soils and crops.

A less expensive mode, sometimes adopted, is, to place the bones together in a heap, and moisten them with ashes and water, covering closely with muck, manure, or common garden mould. If this be done in a warm room, or in the open air in summer, or in the centre of a bed of horse or other fermenting manure, they will soon dissolve, and be in a fit state for application to the crops, after mixing with mould, so as to absorb their moisture.

Grinding or crushing is the usual method of preparing bones for the soil. They are thus rendered comparatively fine, and are easily decomposed when incorporated in the ground. They are conveniently transported in barrels or sacks, and applied with little trouble either to the muck heap, or sown broadcast or in drills. In this condition, they also preserve the animal matters, (the oil and gelatine,) which are slowly given out by decomposition, and materially contribute to the growth of the crops.

A trial has recently been made, which gives us another, and, in many respects, a method superior to all others. It consists in subjecting them to steam of a high pressure for a few hours, when the oil and gelatine are entirely separated, and the largest bones, skulls, hocks, vertebræ, &c., are easily crushed between the thumb and finger, though retaining their full proportions and form. The fat may be thus drawn off and used for soap grease, for cart or wagon wheels, or for certain kinds of machinery, while the remainder of the extracted matter is useful for manure.

A small boiler for generating steam, with a larger one to hold the bones, and a connecting tube, each capable of sustaining a pressure of twenty-five pounds to the inch, are all that are required for this purpose; or should a steam boiler be already in use about the premises, this would supply the place of a steam generator. Where wood ashes are procurable at fair rates, they are economically used with fresh bones, first by leaching and boiling the bones in the lye. If this process is thoroughly carried out, the oil is converted into soap, and the bones are prepared for ready decomposition in the soil. The spent lye yielded by the soap, and the leached ashes and lime remaining, may also be added to the soil, with the utmost advantage. — *American Agriculturist.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — There is another mode of preparation, but we have not the proportions of the materials, nor the mode of operation. A strong lye of wood ashes, or solution of potash, will dissolve bones; and farmers sometimes use these substances to soften or dissolve bones, which they give to cows for the bone disorder. Potash is an excellent manure, particularly on gravelly or sandy soils.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.

Take the article of calicoes. We now monopolize the whole trade — a trade which, but a year since, the English had the whole control of. Very few cotton goods of this style are now imported at all, and we are fast getting the knack of making the finer dress muslins. Of mousseline de laines, we probably manufacture, at a good profit too, far more than we import. Of cloths there is not one bale of English entered at the custom-house, where there were one hundred five years ago. It is true the English have found great competitors in the French and Germans, who, together with our own mills, have nearly driven every piece of English cloth out of the market.

The English are also losing their great hosiery trade with us, the Germans beating them most decidedly in this article. So with many other articles. In fact, our English competitors are fast losing a market which they have had the almost exclusive monopoly of for years; and a steady perseverance on our part, not depending too much on government aid, but more on our natural energies, perseverance, and mechanical skill, will in time not only give us our "home market," but the markets of the world. — *N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

DEPRECIATION OF RAILWAY PROPERTY IN ENGLAND.

The English papers received by the last steamer state that the depreciation of railway property in England during the last three months cannot be less than from 40 to $50,000,000.

This is in consequence of the disclosures in relation to the fraudulent conduct of the directors of their roads. All confidence in this kind of property seems utterly lost.

ASHES AS MANURE FOR GRASS LANDS.

There is scarcely any part of the country where leached ashes cannot be obtained in greater or less quantity; and in the vicinity of asheries, abundance may generally be had. If the following remarks by Count Chaptal are applicable to soils, of whatever materials they may be composed, a knowledge of this property of leached ashes would, in many instances, be of very great value. At all events, the experiment is easily performed on a moderate scale.

"The ashes, produced by the combustion of wood in our common domestic fires, give rise to some very remarkable results. Without being leached, these ashes are much too active; but after having been deprived by the action of water, of nearly all their salts, and employed in this state, under the name of *buck-ashes*, they still produce great effect.

"The action of the buck-ashes is most powerful upon moist lands and meadows, in which they not only facilitate the growth of useful plants, but if employed constantly for several years, they will free the soil from weeds. By the use of them, land constantly drenched with water may be freed from rushes, and prepared for yielding clover and other plants of good kinds."

It has been frequently supposed that ashes applied to wet, heavy soils, is injurious. This is probably owing to the application being too uneven, and in too large quantities, and to the want of mixing them intimately with the soil. Chaptal says, "Wood ashes possess the double property of amending a wet and clayey soil by dividing and drying it, and of promoting vegetation by the salts they contain."

It is well known, that the evenly spread and intimately intermixed layer of ashes which soils receive by burning the turf, produces extraordinary effects upon grass lands. — *Genesee Farmer.*

TO CURE SWELLING OF THE THROAT IN HOGS.

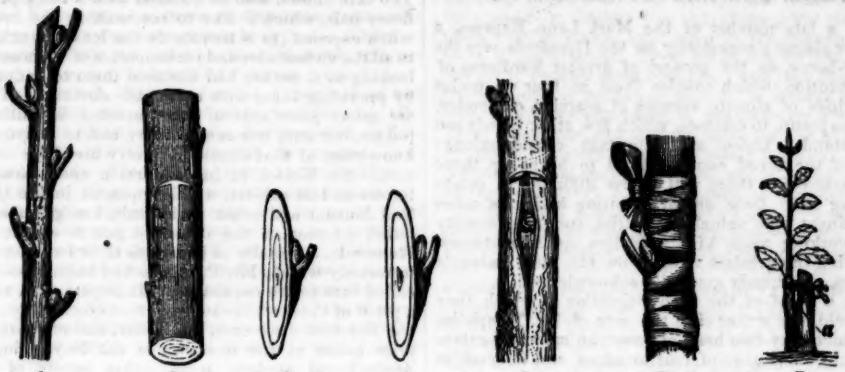
In order to contribute to the usefulness of your valuable periodical, and to inform the public of what I find from experience to be an infallible cure for a certain disease with hogs, viz., the swelling of the throat, I herewith send you a receipt for the disease, with a desire that you publish the same in your work if you deem it of any import, and the same meets your approbation.

Take of molasses one half a pint, and a tablespoonful of hog's lard; to this add of brimstone a piece an inch in length. Melt it over the fire, and when cold or in a liquid state, drench the hog with it; and nine times out of ten it will be found to have the desired effect. My hogs were affected with this disease during the past year, and I found the above to be effective when all things else failed. — *Farmer's Register.*

THE CAUSES OF THE VARIETY AND VIVIDNESS OF COLORS IN FLOWERS.

The petals of flowers do not owe their beauty to the color that paints them, for that, when drawn off, is dull and dead; neither do they owe their brilliant tints to the skin that covers them. Their lovely appearance is derived chiefly from the bubbles of water which compose their pabulum. Receiving the sun's rays, they are enlivened and brightened by reflection and refraction from those drops of water, and from that spot or point of light being seen in every bubble, and striking to the focus underneath. By these means the whole flower would at times be one blaze of light, had not nature, to soften the same, covered the petal with an upper and an under skin, which curtails their diamond-like rays, and leaves them instead a lightness and beauty unequalled by the most exquisite art of the painter.

Beware of little expenses: a small leak will sink a large ship.



1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.

BUDDING.

1. Stick of buds.
2. Stock prepared for the bud.
3. Shield or bud with the wood in.
4. Bud with the wood taken out.
5. Stock with the bud inserted.
6. Stock with the bud tied in.
7. Growing bud tied to the stock.

Budding, though a simple process, that may be readily learned and practised with ease and expedition, is wonderful in its operation. There are many kinds of fruit that can be propagated rapidly only by this process, and by grafting, which is similar. The apple and pear are propagated very slowly and with difficulty by layers, cuttings, and inarching, and almost every variety will fail to produce its like by seed.

But budding affords so easy and rapid a multiplication of trees, that from one tree a thousand may be produced in one year, and each one afford numerous buds for a further multiplication. So that a single tree, of excellent variety, may be scattered all over the country, in a few years, or over the world, so far as civilization, and, consequently, useful arts, adapted to an improved condition of society, have extended.

Any one who would practise budding, and is not acquainted with the operation, should learn from a practitioner, if convenient; but he may learn the art by reading. In this way we learned it, and our first attempts were successful.

The buds should be cut from shoots of the present year's growth, that are becoming ripe or firm, as those very tender or succulent are too soft, and more liable to fail. There is often a great error in not preparing the stick of buds immediately after cut, for the moisture is constantly passing into the leaf; and sometimes on a hot dry day, the buds will be spoiled in two hours, if the leaves remain on, the bud becoming dry and dead.

In preparing the stock, it is better to make the cross cut in a circular form, that the band may cross it, rather than press into the cut. The bark on each side of the perpendicular cut, at the top, should be raised with the handle of the budding-knife, by lifting, not by forcing it down between the bark and wood, which may disturb the *cambrium*, or new layer of soft matter, called *sliver*, in some sections.

Some years past, it was a general practice to take out the small slip of wood cut out with the bud, which is represented by the inner circle, figure 3. Of late years, most persons, and nearly all who have recently commenced the business, leave the wood in. Old practitioners say, in regard to this new mode, that it is better to take out the wood in buds from rather large, firm scions; but when the scions are small and succulent, it is better to leave the wood in. Beginners will generally succeed better by leaving the wood in, as they are liable to injure the bud or bark around it, in removing the wood. Many budders always leave the wood in, and succeed well, and this mode is the more convenient; and this will give a preference for the American mode over the slower English process. In taking out the wood, if the root of the bud come out with it, which may be known by a minute hole in the bud, at the point marked in the centre of figure 4, that bud must be rejected. This may be prevented by cleaving off the wood with the thumb nail, to the root of the bud, and then cut the wood off there, smooth with the bark, with a thin, pointed knife.

In cutting the bud from the scion, insert the knife below the bud, and take a thin slip of wood, especially if it is allowed to remain in. After slipping in the bud, cut off the bark at the cross cut, as in figure 5. Wind the band closely and neatly around every part of the cut bark of the stock, barely leaving out the bud, as appears in figure 6. As the stock grows, so that the band binds too tightly, loosen the band and retie, and let it remain till the bud is firmly united with the stock.

The time for budding varies with the season, weather, age of trees, rapidity of growth, &c. We usually begin with the plum the first of August, and then follow with the cherry, pear, quince, and apple, nearly or quite through the month, and sometimes into September.

HEREFORD AND OTHER CATTLE.

In a late number of the Mark Lane Express, a writer claims a superiority for the Herefords over the short-horns, on the ground of greater hardiness of constitution, which enables them to bear up under severities of climate, seasons of scarcity, epidemics, and exposure to diseases, which few other breeds can withstand. These are important considerations; and if the breed can be found to prove up these characteristics, there will be no difficulty in establishing their fame on an enduring basis; as other prominent and valuable qualities, such as capacity for working oxen, kindly feeders, quick maturers, carrying the greatest weights on the most valuable points, are already generally acknowledged.

As a proof of the high estimation in which they are held, the writer cites the case of Mr. Tompkins, in which fifty-two head of grown animals and calves brought an average of four hundred and forty-eight dollars each. One bull (Phœnix) sold for over two thousand nine hundred dollars. Those sold by Mr. Price, in 1841, consisting of one hundred bulls, cows, and calves, averaged two hundred and sixty dollars each. A cow and calf sold for one thousand one hundred and fifty dollars at auction. Below we give some of his remarks, which are quite to the point: —

I consider it absolutely requisite that a breeder, to arrive at eminence, should be very particular in his selection of materials to found a herd upon; otherwise he will meet with disappointment at the onset, and may be deterred from prosecuting the pursuit with zeal and interest afterwards. This brings me to what should next receive his special attention — "pedigree;" which is of so much consequence that I cannot see how a breeder can proceed in safety without it. To secure the excellences which I wish to perpetuate in animals, I have always found the surest method of doing it to breed from those that have possessed them for generations past; and I cannot discover how any one can be influenced to use a male to any extent with well-bred cows (however perfect in form, coat, and quality) of mongrel descent. The chances are, that his offspring will not inherit his good qualities, but his and his progenitors' imperfections. There are few cows that sufficiently combine the many essential qualities of bull breeders. And it is a growing evil to save the male produce of inferior cows for bulls, thereby making a bad and worse than useless bull of what would otherwise make a good ox.

The color of Herefords is much diversified. It is well known that there are good Herefords of various colors, such as grays, roans, mottled, and white faces, with and without marks of white on the back, bosom, and abdomen; the rest of the body being dark or light red. As a well wisher to the prosperity of Hereford cattle, I much deplore the fashion or prejudice which gives a predominance in favor of a particular color, to the exclusion of all others. To accomplish it, there must be a sacrifice of many good, if not the very best animals, without any real advantage accruing from it. A herd uniform in color is pleasing to the eye of a superficial observer; but an individual with any pretensions to a knowledge of the true character of Herefords will discover the characteristics of the breed, notwithstanding the herd contains animals of every color incident to them. Indeed, it is strongly marked in the late Mr. B. Tompkins's, and his successor, (Mr. Price's,) family of Herefords. Although to a great extent I disregard color, I by no means am indifferent about the coat or covering.

The Herefords, I presume, should have a moderately thick hide, elastic, and affording to the touch that mellowness which is only to be acquired by experience. These are indicative of a predisposition to acquire flesh and fat, and it is termed quality, The skin should also be covered with a thick pile of flossy hair, which I like to see waft in the breeze, when exposed (as is frequently the lot of Herefords) to all the vicissitudes and inclemencies of the weather, looking as if nature had destined them to endure it, by providing them with a suitable covering. There are many standards of form erected by different judges, but only one can be true; and to arrive at a knowledge of that should be every breeder's ambition. Mr. Welles, in his admirable and instructive letters on this subject, which appeared in the Hereford Journal and other periodicals, has given a detailed account of the defective points existing in Herefords, especially as it regards their fore quarters, to remedy which, Mr. Price's sort of bulls should be called into active requisition. It augurs well, and is a proof of the correctness of my recommendation, that the Hereford prize oxen and heifer, and many of the prize cattle, at the meetings of the Royal English Agricultural Society, were either purely of Mr. Price's sort, or strongly spiced with that blood. I can imagine that an undue attachment to a favorite color, and a love for animals of overgrown dimensions, will operate with some breeders against trying this heretofore successful cross. It is plainly observable that now size is receiving more attention than form, at the sacrifice of many points of utility and beauty. We occasionally see a good animal of overgrown dimensions, but more frequently the reverse — "an uncertain bull at an uncertain hop;" neither do I believe there is any advantage in it, as animals require more food and care when driven beyond their natural standard, and, like water forced above its level, will return to it again when the floodgate is withdrawn. I do not, however, advocate diminutive animals, but those with as much size as is consistent with the laws of nature. If the breeders of Herefords steadily keep in view the improvement of their justly celebrated cattle, the short-horns and Devons will never supersede them, and they will be enabled to maintain their invidious position at the two great national agricultural exhibitions.

GEORGE DRAKE.

Stockbridge, Hants, *Feb.* 27, 1849.

— *From the American Agriculturist.*

PROSPECTS FOR THE WOOL MARKET.

We once more recur to this subject, for although the flocks in Maine have been wonderfully thinned off, there "are a few more left," and their owners feel as much interest in the question, "*How is wool?*" as ever.

The new monthly periodical, started by T. C. Peters, in Buffalo, N. Y., entitled the "Wool-Grower," promises to be a valuable aid to the wool-growing interest; and as the editor is at the head of a large wool depot, and of course directly connected with the wool trade, his statements may be relied upon, as one "having authority" in these matters at least.

The range of the Buffalo market, during June, he quotes as follows: —

No. 1,	. . . . .	30 to 34	cents.
2,	. . . . .	27 " 32	"
3,	. . . . .	25 " 28	"
4,	. . . . .	23 " 26	"
5,	. . . . .	20 " 23	"

And he adds, that wool ought not to be sold, and probably will not be, unless forced upon the market, at a price below the highest range; but if forced upon the market, it can be readily sold at our lowest quotations. These prices are for the opening market.

It may not be clearly understood by some of our readers what is meant by Nos. 1, 2, &c.

Mr. Peters says his mode of sorting is this: The very coarsest common wool is No. 5. There is scarcely a flock so common that its wool will not range at No. 4, which is the next best grade.

Full-blooded Merino is the No. 1, while half and three-fourths will make more or less No. 2. One quarter and half make No. 3. Saxony wool and its grades rank above Merino and its grades. The farmer can therefore form a pretty accurate idea of the value of his wool from the foregoing figures.

The editor advises wool-growers to make their arrangements and calculations without any reference to any alterations of the tariff very soon. He thinks the balancing of parties at Washington, for or against a new tariff, such as ought not to lead the farmer to depend upon any important change, and the reasons which induce him to consider a rise in wool probable during the season, are based upon the state of affairs in Europe.

He remarks, that "there are no old stocks on hand to be thrown upon our markets, either from France, Germany, or England. On the contrary, their own markets were never so bare as at this moment.

"The war between Austria and Hungary has been very disastrous to some of the finest wool-growing sections of those countries, and by increasing consumers, and decreasing producers, the result must be that there will be nothing to export. Indeed, should this war continue any length of time, or become more general, it is not improbable that we shall become exporters of wool to such an extent as to sensibly affect the price at home." He also observes, that if England is compelled to purchase her wool here, it is clear that our manufacturers will have little to fear from them, for the difference of transportation, time, and other expenses, with the tariff, will more than neutralize any advantage her manufacturers may have over ours, by reason of the cheapness of labor and capital.

On the other hand, they must also consider that any advantages that may arise from the present commotions in Europe, are very precarious. They may subside ere the year has expired, in which case markets will return to their former condition, or they may continue and settle down into a long and savage war, in which case what brings desolation to them may indirectly increase prices in our own country. It is not probable that wool-growing in the Northern States will ever again be as profitable as it has been in years past; yet it may become a fair business once more. — *Maine Farmer.*

THE DEW.

The dew, celebrated through all times and in every tongue for its sweet influence, presents the most beautiful and also striking illustration of divine agency in the economy of nature, and exhibits one of those wise and bountiful adaptations, by which the whole system of things, animate and inanimate, is fitted and bound together. All bodies on the surface of the earth radiate and throw out some rays of heat, in straight lines — every warmer body to every colder; and the entire surface is itself continually sending rays upwards through the clear air into free space. Thus, on the earth's surface all bodies strive, as it were, after an equal temperature, (an equilibrium of heat,) while the surface, as a whole, tends generally towards a cooler state. But while the sun shines, this cooling will not take place, for the earth then receives in general more heat than it gives off; and if the clear sky be shut out by a canopy of clouds, these will arrest and again throw back a portion of the heat, and prevent it from being so speedily dissipated. At night, then, when the sun is absent, the earth will cool the most; on clear nights, also, more than when it is cloudy; and when clouds only partially obscure the sky, those parts will become coolest which look towards the clearest portions of the heavens. Now, when the surface cools, the air in contact must cool also; and like the warm currents on the mountain side, must forsake a portion of the watery vapor it has hitherto retained. This water, like the floating mist on the hills, descends in particles almost infinitely minute. These particles collect on every leaflet, and suspend themselves from every blade of grass, in the drops of "pearly dew." And mark here a beautiful adaptation. Different substances are endowed with the property of radiating their heat, and thus becoming cool with different degrees of rapidity; and those substances, which, in the air, become cool first, also attract first and most abundantly the particles of falling dew. Thus, in the cool of a summer's evening, the grass-plot is wet while the gravel-walk is dry; and the thirsty pasture and every green leaf are drinking in the descending moisture, while the naked land and the barren highway are still unconscious of their fall. — *Farmer and Mechanic.*

THE JAPAN CEDAR.

The English periodicals abound with interesting notices of this tree, which, along with the *deodara*, or Indian cedar, is decidedly the rage in that evergreen-loving country.

The Japan cedar, (*cryptomeria Japonica,*) which is nearly allied to the cypress, is one of the many treasures brought home by Mr. Fortune, the Chinese traveller, to the London Horticultural Society. As it grows in the north of China, about Shangai, where the thermometer sinks nearly to zero, and forms large forests on the mountains of Japan, at the height of more than one thousand feet, it follows that it is a hardy evergreen in all temperate climates.

The English accounts of this tree state, that for beauty and rapidity of growth it has no rivals among hardy evergreen trees. In the garden of the London Horticultural Society, young trees have grown four feet in a single season. It is described by some of its admirers as the "Queen of Evergreen Trees." Its peculiar beauty is in the graceful droop of its branches. It is a great favorite in China for avenues, growing up one hundred feet high, with a remarkably straight stem, and dense and handsome foliage. The wood is said to be very hard and elastic, and "withstands the most terrific winds or monsoons, which sometimes devastate that country. It is employed in China for the high poles which are every where placed at the dwellings of mandarins, to denote their rank, where it lasts for ages."

The Japan cedar is said to be as hardy in England as the deodar cedar. As the latter tree, even in young specimens, has, in this country, withstood without injury a winter temperature of six degrees below the zero of Fahrenheit, we may safely say that the Japan cedar, or cryptomeria, will endure the winters of the Middle States, and possibly those of the Eastern States, in proper situations, i. e., those sheltered from sudden thawings in winter.

The soil considered most favorable to the growth of this tree is a sandy loam, mixed with some peat or leaf mould. Those inclined to plant where there is doubt of its standing the winter, will take care that the subsoil is well drained when preparing to plant it.

The tree is, of course, yet very scarce in this country. Plants about a foot high may, however, be obtained of Buist, Parsons, and other leading nursery-men. Ellwanger and Barry have also, we notice, imported a few for sale and for trial in the interior of this state. Every amateur will be glad to make

trial of a tree that promises to add so much to the beauty of our lawns and pleasure-grounds; and, we hope, in another season the Japan cedar, if found quite hardy, will be imported, so as to be afforded at a moderate price in our nurseries. — *Downing's Horticulturist.*

Domestic Department.

Mothers. — O woman! if you could only see one of the miracles promised to maternal influence, with what noble pride would you enter upon that career which has so generously opened future ages to your endeavors! That which is not in the power of any monarch or any nation to accomplish is given to your will to execute. You alone can unite the scattered flock, and give it one common impulse. That which I have not been able to trace on this cold paper, you can engrave on the hearts of a whole people. I offer to you a feeble image of the truth, and you can bequeath the truth itself to the whole world. When, in our public walks and gardens, I see on all sides the noisy crowds of children diverting themselves with the sports suitable to their age, my heart trembles with joy at the thought that they belong to you. Let each devote herself to the happiness of her own children, for in such individual happiness God has placed the promise of general happiness. Young girls, young wives, tender mothers, it lies in you, much more than it lies in the laws of a legislature, to confirm the future destiny of Europe, and the destiny of mankind. — *Aime Martin.*

Keeping Lemons Fresh. — I have been a housekeeper for some years, and never, till lately, have I been able to keep lemons fresh and juicy for any length of time. But, with all my care — now in this closet, now in that — now wrapped in paper, now packed in bran — now in a cool place, now in a dry one — they would dry up, and become hard as wood. Of late, however, I have preserved them perfectly fresh, three months, in summer, by placing them in a closely covered jar, or pot, kept in the ice-house. Each lemon is wrapped in a paper, (perhaps they would do as well without,) but opened and wiped once in ten or twelve days, then covered again with dry paper, and put back into the jar, or earthen vessel, on the ice. — *American Agriculturist.*

Soapstone Griddles. — Understanding that cakes on a soapstone griddle required no fat to keep them from sticking, I brought home one a few days ago, and we prepared to try the experiment. The look of incredulity in the chief cook, at that moment, was amusing; but it was soon turned into one of triumph, for the cakes were turned and taken off as easily as they would have been from the best greased "bake-iron;" and without any fume from burning fat, as in common cases. Besides, the cakes were all nicely browned, and not one burned in the slightest degree. It is true, soapstone may be heated red hot, but then the plate is so thick, and heats so slowly, that all danger of burning is easily prevented. In short, we are highly pleased with the purchase, and deem it a great acquisition.

It will be important to keep these griddles very clean, and for this purpose, they may be rubbed occasionally with pumice-stone. — *D. Thomas, in Albany Cultivator.*

To strengthen Vinegar. — Suffer it to be repeatedly frozen, and separate the upper cake of ice from it.

Boys' Department.

Fish Breeding. — It may be a curiosity only to us who have such an extent of sea-coast, and so many lakes, rivers, and streams full of fish, to make any inquiries in regard to the best modes, or any modes, of breeding fish. The comparative ease with which we are generally supplied with fish of various kinds has made it unnecessary to study all the habits of fish with any view of breeding them economically. It is done in many parts of the world, and the facts which have been elicited by those who have attended to such operations are very interesting.

The Chinese, who are so famous for economical arrangements for procuring food, often adopt a practice like the following: It is stated by some travellers that at certain seasons of the year, they carefully collect the ova, or spawn, as some call it, of certain kinds of fish, as fast as it is deposited, then procure some hen's eggs, and after making a hole in each end, by blowing the inside of it through, the fish ova are introduced into the shell. The ends being closed, the egg is placed in an oven of a certain temperature, until the young fry nearly make their appearance, when the shell is broken, and the contents put into water warmed by the rays of the sun. When the young brood procured by this means, attain a certain size, a portion of it is applied for the purpose of feeding the larger species of fish, and the remainder destined for the table. Such management may do for China, where labor is exceedingly cheap and provisions scarce.

We could hardly afford the time and trouble. We may, however, take the hint and supply places destitute of fish now, or of certain varieties of fish, by obtaining the ova or spawn, and depositing it in those waters where they are wanted.

Fish have been transported from one location to another by catching them alive, and confining them in water, until they are liberated in the water where they are desired to propagate. Some people suppose that fish that come up from the ocean periodically, require a chance to go back periodically. This does not hold good in all cases. In some of the ponds or lakes of Maine are found the common smelt, which were probably first confined there, or prevented from returning to the ocean from which they originally came, by the construction of dams across the streams or outlets. They have continued to live and flourish for a long series of years, and, if any thing, are improved in size thereby. How far this mode might be carried is not known.

There can be no doubt that the salmon might be thus confined in large, deep ponds, by the same means. The habits of this fish are in many respects like the trout, with this exception: the salmon migrates up the streams from the deep waters of the ocean or rivers in the spring of the year, for the purpose of spawning. The trout migrates in the fall. Both, however, retire to deep water in the winter. Those large salmon trout, as they are called, which are caught in the lakes above us, live in deep water, and pretty near the bottom, and it requires a long line to catch them.

Some friends once tried to change the residence of the bass, by confining them in ponds that did not very directly communicate with the sea. What success they met with, we are not informed. If the habits of fishes were better understood, we have no doubt that many more species might be brought to become permanent inhabitants of our lakes and ponds, instead of being mere transient visitors. — *Maine Farmer.*

A good word for a bad one, is worth much and costs little.

Health.

Evil Consequences of Smoking. — The widespread habit of smoking has not yet had due medical attention paid to it and its consequences. It is only by two or three years' observation that Dr. Laycock has become fully aware of the great changes induced in the system by the abuse of tobacco, and of the varied and obscure forms of disease to which especially excessive smoking gave origin. He proceeded to state some of them as they were met with in the pharyngeal mucous membrane, the stomach, the lungs, the heart, the brain, and the nervous system. The tobacco consumed by habitual smokers varies from half an ounce to twelve ounces per week; the usual quantity from two to three ounces. Inveterate cigar smokers will consume from four to five dozen per week. The first morbid result is an inflammatory condition of the mucous membrane, of the lips and tongue, then the tonsils and pharynx suffer, the mucous membrane becoming dry and congested. If the thorax be examined well, it will be found slightly swollen, with congested veins meandering over the surface, and here and there a streak of mucus. The action of tobacco smoking on the heart is depressing, and some individuals, who feel it in this organ more than others, complain of an uneasy sensation about the left nipple, a distressed feeling, not amounting to faintness, but allied to it. The action of the heart is observed to be feeble and irregular. An uneasy feeling is also experienced in or beneath the pectoral muscles, and oftener on the right side than the left. On the brain, the use of tobacco appears to diminish the rapidity of cerebral action, and check the flow of ideas through the mind. It differs from opium and henbane, and rather excites to wakefulness, like green tea, than composes to sleep; induces a dreaminess which leaves no impression on the memory, leaving a great susceptibility, indicated by a trembling of the hands and irritability of temper. Such are secondary results of smoking. So are blackness of teeth and gum-boils. There is also a sallow paleness of the complexion, an irresoluteness of disposition, a want of life and energy, and in constant smokers, who do not drink, a tendency to pulmonary phthisic. Dr. Wright, of Birmingham, in a communication to the author, fully corroborates his opinions; and both agree that smoking produces gastric disorders, coughs, and inflammatory affections of the larynx and pharynx, diseases of the heart, and lowness of the spirits, and, in short, is very injurious to the respiratory, alimentary, and nervous systems. — *English Literary Gazette.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

A New and Important Invention. — A few days since, we had the satisfaction of witnessing the operation of a new machine for spinning wool, the invention of Mr. Wm. C. Bates and Mr. S. B. Tucker, of this town, which is a very great and important improvement in this department of woollen manufacture. Mr. Bates is a practical machinist, and Mr. Tucker a wool spinner and manufacturer. And in the construction of this machine they have displayed great ingenuity and remarkable skill.

It is well known to those who are acquainted with this kind of manufacture, that wool cannot, like cotton, be drawn out and then twisted, but that both must be done at the same time, and with the same operation. The present mode of performing this work is by means of "jacks," which take the wool or roping, which has previously been prepared by the cards, and draw and spin it into thread for warp or filling. The jacks occupy a large space, and require a great amount of labor and care to work them. But this new invention is so constructed that the jacks may be wholly dispensed with, and the thread is drawn out and twisted by the unaided operations of this ingenious machine, which is called the "Bates and Tucker Revolving Draft and Wool-Spinner."

The spinner which we saw, occupies a length of four feet six inches, by a width of three feet, and contains twenty spindles. We were told that it would do the work of fifty spindles on a jack, which would occupy a space of ten feet by seven feet eight inches. In other words, fifty spindles of the jack occupy seventy-eight square feet, while the spinner occupies thirteen and one half square feet — a fraction over one sixth of the same space!

This machine possesses several important advantages over the jack. 1. There is a great saving of room, as seen above. 2. A great saving of labor, performing a much greater amount of work with much less manual assistance. 3. It requires much less power in its operations. 4. By this method there will be no small saving in using the yarn, as bobbins wound by machinery will contain a greater quantity of yarn, and, it being wound more even, can be wove or warped off with less delay.

As we witnessed the operation of both methods, we noticed that the yarn spun by the revolving draft was much more even, both in size and twist, than that spun by the jack; and it makes a soft, elastic, and strong thread. It will spin coarse as well as fine stock. The machine is very simple in its arrangement, and it is so constructed as to give great strength to each part, while but little strength is required to do the work. Its motions are easy and natural, — which must render it a very durable, still, and beautifully operating machine.

Public attention was first called to this great invention by the Maine Farmer, last November; but since that time, important improvements have been made by the inventors, and its powers more fully tested. The proprietors now feel the utmost confidence in its success, and they are taking measures to secure a patent and bring it before the public. We have no doubt that this wool-spinner will go into general use, and be of great utility in woollen manufacture. We hope that the ingenious inventors will meet with that success which their skill and enterprise so richly deserve. — *Gardiner, (Me.) Cold Water Fountain.*

REARING, KEEPING, AND FATTENING DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

The science of breeding, keeping, and fattening domestic animals is too much neglected in the United States. Few practical farmers have the courage to take hold of the somewhat forbidding subjects of comparative anatomy, physiology, and organic chemistry, with a resolute purpose to understand the living organism by which grass, hay, grain, and roots are transformed into beef, mutton, pork, butter, cheese, and wool. The natural machinery for effecting these important changes of vegetable into animal substances, deserves to be studied with great care, in order to make the most of the food consumed by every animal kept on the farm. There is no class that has reached perfection in yielding the largest product in flesh, milk, or wool, for the aliment consumed, in the course of its lifetime. All are fed unequally — sometimes too much and sometimes too little; and, again, they suffer from food more defective in quality than deficient in quantity. One often sees store pigs eat the dung of over-fed fatting hogs; and in this city, half-starved cows voraciously devour the solid excretions of corn-fed carriage horses. In

rearing swine, they are commonly underfed about three fourths of their lives, and overfed the other fourth; so that, in the aggregate, not more than one half as much meat is elaborated from the food taken into the stomach of pigs as might have been formed.

All animals demand a certain quantity of nutritive matter to preserve them in a normal condition, or to prevent their losing weight and becoming poor and poorer. In all cases where the object is to form meat, it is bad economy to keep animals for weeks and months, as thousands of farmers do, without gaining a pound of flesh, although they necessarily consume a large amount of food. This forms the manure; i. e., one hundred pounds of solid matter taken into the stomach yield forty in dry dung yard and urine, and no more. If we feed much above the point of normal nutrition, a portion of the aliment fails to enter the lacteal vessels which surround the alimentary canal, and through which digested matter passes into the blood-vessels to nourish the system. This excess of food, whether partially digested or not, passes on through the bowels, and appears as feces or dung. There is always an immense loss in seeking to make animals excessively fat. Of course, when two or three prices are realized for such beef, mutton, or pork, the loss in the waste of food is paid by the consumer. Our object is to develop the true economy of making meat, regardless of the fact whether it is sold or consumed by the producer. This consists in providing a reliable supply of suitable food, so that the animal, from its birth to the day of its being slaughtered, should steadily gain in weight. So long as it is adding to the length and size of its bones and muscles — growing — its system will be little inclined to take on fat, if not overfed. Excessive stuffing and no exercise, bring the development of bone and muscle to a premature ripeness. They cease to expand, and you have a fat lapdog or a pocket china pig. Habitual starving will also bring the carcass to maturity before it attains to its proper size. Skilful feeding implies that one never gives too much nor too little; and has the food well adapted to the constitution and habits of the animal, whether a horse, sheep, cow, or swine.

This system of feeding is not so easy as some may imagine; for the quantity of grass that will grow on a given number of acres, in pasture and meadow, in a dry or wet season, is very unequal. Hence, in the one case, the farmer will have more feed than stock; and in the other more stock than feed. If one must err in the matter, it is usually better to have an excess, rather than a deficiency of forage. Grass left to rot on the ground in a pasture or meadow is far from being lost. It improves the soil.

After having taken all due pains to make two blades of grass and corn grow where only one of either grew before, the stock-grower should study closely the business of breeding domestic animals. The leading idea in this art and science is, to select the best males and females, from which to propagate and improve the race. This rule applies alike to the equine, bovine, ovine, and swine families. In each genus there are several species, in each species there are numerous breeds, and in the several breeds not a few varieties. It is no part of our duty to attempt to write up one species or breed of animals, whether of cattle, horses, hogs, or sheep, and to write down another. Practical farmers know best what kind of stock will suit their land and markets. Our advice, if offered, would be quite as likely to miss as to hit the wants of the reader. There is more difference in the value of breeds than many are willing to admit, and less than some breeders of improved races claim. A yearling of the short-horn stock, less than thirteen months old, was weighed in this city a few days since, and brought down six hundred and seventy-five pounds. This heifer, which was not fat, is the offspring of Mr. Clay's importation. Another heifer, of the same family, weighed seven hundred and eighteen pounds when fifteen months old. The mother of the calf first named belongs to the lady with whom the writer boards; and this valuable cow gives some twenty quarts of rich milk a day. There are Devons near here from the herd of L. F. Allen, Esq., which are much admired for their beauty.

The Texas Telegraph, of May 24, published at Houston, says that wool grown in that state, and sent to New York market, has brought one dollar and twenty-five cents a fleece this season. Men are buying large flocks in Mexican states, Missouri, Tennessee, and elsewhere, to drive into the northern parts of Texas. Sheep husbandry is beginning to excite considerable attention at the south and southwest.

Believing, as we do, that this republic is likely to enjoy great prosperity during the next ten years, and receive large accessions to its population and wealth from Europe, the demand for good breeding animals will be steady, and at quite remunerating prices. Whoever will take due pains to improve his cows, sheep, horses, and swine, cannot fail to be well paid for his trouble. — *Genesee Farmer.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — The able article here presented offers valuable facts and suggestions. In fattening animals, one important consideration is frequently overlooked. Fat meat is often made for the same purpose as Pindar's razors — *to sell;* and too little attention is paid to the health of the animal or the healthful condition of the meat. An animal is often shut up and kept without exercise or pure air, and fed highly, which course would surely kill the animal, if pursued long; and when the animal is more than half way from a healthy condition to an untimely death by high feeding and inaction, it is slaughtered and sold. This subject should receive more attention in connection with the general management of animals.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

It is a fact that in all the best agricultural counties in the Eastern States, agricultural societies have for a long time existed, and have been munificently sustained. This has been done because experience has proved that their influences are productive of great good to the agricultural interest. In the first place, they have had the effect of placing the leading interest of the country prominently before the people. This has made those engaged in agriculture feel their importance as a professional class. It has stimulated their industry, and made the individuals composing that class emulous to rival each other in every branch of their business. The finest stock has been procured from abroad, and the general stock of the country has been made to attain a high point of excellence. Farming has been done with more system, more neatness, more economy, and with greater profit. Experiments have been made in the composition and value of manures, and every thing that could be made available to increase the fertility of the soil has been employed for that purpose. Waste lands and brush pastures have been ploughed up, and the earth worked to a great depth, and a new source of wealth has been found in lands which before had been scarcely worth fencing. The black muck, or mud, in sloughs, ponds, bottoms of brooks, the accumulation of ages, has been carted out, thrown in compost heaps, made to ferment, and manufactured into valuable manure,

and, when generously distributed on worn-out, or exhausted soils, has made a liberal return for the labor thus bestowed. Farmers have learned that small farms well cultivated are more profitable than large farms half cultivated; that it was more profitable to raise eighty bushels of corn on one acre, than upon two acres; that it paid far better to grow four tons of timothy upon one acre than upon four acres. These results begat a disposition to farm upon a system; to make neat and beautiful farms, and to beautify the country with good farm-houses, outbuildings, fences, gates, and other improvements, which make the business of farming pleasant, desirable and profitable. It is this state of things that has induced men of capital, taste, and education to become identified with the agricultural class.

The same fact may be generally stated in regard to some other distinct branches connected with agriculture. Horticulture, as a branch of agriculture, is now receiving great attention in many portions of the Eastern States. The advances which this science has made (it may properly be called a science) within the last few years, has even astonished its most ardent friends. Valuable varieties of fruits have been produced, which were unknown in former years. Apples, pears, peaches, plums, strawberries, grapes, currants, gooseberries, &c. have been greatly improved. It is now esteemed essential to the health and comfort of farmers, that they should cultivate the most valuable fruits. Common fruits may be regarded as an advance from the savage or natural state of such fruits, while the excellent varieties are an evidence of the most refined civilization. It is even now stated by intelligent pomologists that they have only arrived at the starting-point of horticultural improvements. If so, to what perfection fruits must attain before they reach the goal of improvement!

If objects like these can be promoted by agricultural societies, there cannot be too many of them. In this great agricultural state, they should be extensively patronized. In our own county, the agricultural interest should not suffer the society to languish. The chief interest of our citizens is agriculture. It is here the basis of all other interests. We wish to see it prosper. We would especially be glad to see agriculture here carried on as a system, farms cultivated with taste, — residences neat, but not expensive, — roads fine — bridges safe — and an air of real prosperity be presented every where. Our farmers have seen fortunate times within the last few years. We mean those who have had crops and stock to sell. There are some, as it is stated in the old proverb, who "never have a dish when it rains porridge;" — some that complain of the times when they take no pains to make them better. We anticipate that hereafter farming will yield a sure, if not a great profit in our state. — *Illinois Journal.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — We recommend the foregoing article to the particular attention of those who would do away with agricultural societies. Look at the important and numerous subjects that are essentially promoted by these associations, and then judge whether they should be dispensed with. First let the advocates for their abolition recommend a substitute.

SYRIAN CATTLE.

The two male and female Khaisi calves which Lieutenant Lynch purchased at Damascus, and brought home with him in the storeship Supply, on his return from the Dead Sea expedition, were shown to the president in Washington a few days ago. They are now, one eighteen, the other sixteen months old, and belonging to Colonel James Castleman, a great breeder, of Clarke county, Va. The bull is four feet ten inches high, ten feet four inches in length, and weighs nine hundred and fifty pounds; the heifer of a proportionate size, and weighs six hundred and fifty pounds. Their limbs are as delicate as those of a gazelle, yet strong and well set as those of a race-horse. They are of a deep shining bay color, and their horns, which are just sprouting, are black as those of a buffalo. When full grown, they are said to stand seven feet high, and the cow is said to yield forty-three quarts of milk a day. Lieutenant Lynch is to have the first full-blooded bull calf, and subsequent produce of the animals is to be appropriated to the extension of the breed at the colonel's discretion. He says he would not take ten thousand dollars for the two. They were presented by Lieutenant Lynch to the state of Virginia, and Governor Floyd gave them to the present owner, as the best means of propagation. We don't know why every one of Virginia's sisters is not entitled to a heifer of this foreign breed. The Boston Post thinks the farmer of Ashland and the farmer of Marshfield should put in the claims of their respective states for a Khaisi calf. — *Mass. Spy.*

THE WEALTH OF THE WEST.

The value of maize or Indian corn as a crop is incalculable, or rather is of such magnitude, that no adequate idea can be conveyed of its importance by figures. I shall endeavor to furnish some notion of its value by a few simple facts.

In Illinois, which is extensively a corn raising state, "the kind mostly cultivated is the gourd seed, with long kernel and small cob, giving a bushel of shelled corn to a bushel and a half of ears. It grows frequently fourteen feet and higher, and in good seasons, large fields often produce seventy-five bushels and over to the acre.

"Allowing a fair estimate for fencing, interest, &c., and prairie farmers calculate their corn costs them, when ripe, standing in the fields, five to six cents per bushel. The labor of one hand is considered adequate to the culture of forty acres; but allow that he is a little lazy, which is a prevalent complaint, and works only thirty acres; then, if he raises one thousand five hundred bushels, it costs only four cents.

"The ears droop, so that the husk is a perfect protection, and it is harvested in the autumn or winter at the farmer's convenience — or when the time comes to fatten hogs, he fences off a few acres, and lets them harvest for themselves, and then gives them a few acres more."

At the rate here referred to, fattened hogs cost the farmer *sixty-seven* cents, and beef cattle fifty cents per hundred pounds, both of the best quality. What its profits actually are, may be inferred from the fact that he ordinarily gets three times those rates for these articles which he considers equal to twelve and a half cents per bushel for corn. When railroads shall take his pork and beef to market, they will be worth three dollars, at the lowest figure. What a mine of wealth is here!

A correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, writing from Chicago, says

"In the summer of 1845 I was on one of the largest farms of the west. It belongs to Jacob Strawn, of Morgan county, in this state, and contains over eight thousand acres, all fenced and improved. His profits, the year before, had been over twenty thousand dollars, made chiefly on fat cattle and pork; yet he says that all the profits he asks for, in his farming operations, is to make the corn, which he raises himself, bring him twelve and a half cents per bushel on his farm; that is, he is willing to be at all the trouble

of raising and fattening droves of cattle and hogs without profit on them, in consideration of the money he makes by marketing his corn in that way, and getting for it but twelve and a half cents a bushel."

It would seem superfluous to add any thing more on this subject. But in fact, all that has been thus far stated, is but its threshold. I will just suggest two views, which, if correct, — and I do not see how they can be disputed, — will serve to show that the great west must become the richest country on the face of the earth.

It is abundantly demonstrable that a railroad to the Pacific will forever put Indian corn at a minimum of thirty cents per bushel in any part of Illinois. Indeed, I am not sure that a railroad to the Atlantic cities will not accomplish the same result. Another fact: It will be seen in another article of this day's Advertiser, that in the comparatively cold and sterile region of Northern Pennsylvania, close farming has produced a yield of one hundred and twenty bushels of corn to the acre, by an individual who believes he will be eventually able to raise one hundred and sixty bushels per acre. What has been done in Pennsylvania, can readily be done in Illinois, when high prices shall stimulate the effort. — *Cist's Cin. Adv.*

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Acts and Resolves, passed by the legislature of Massachusetts, in 1849. — These occupy 266 large octavo pages, showing that if our legislators did hold a long session, of which many complained, they were very industrious; and many, who were the most active on committees, must have had a very laborious task.

The American Farmer. — This able and instructive journal, by S. Sands, Baltimore, has just commenced a new volume. Monthly, 32 pages, at $1 a year. This is a descendant of the old American Farmer, by Skinner, the first agricultural paper ever published in this country; and the whole series, from the beginning down to the present period, is well filled with interesting and valuable matter.

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN.

An effort is now making to establish, in Boston, an institution for the education of females as obstetric practitioners — a most important object. This department of practice ought never to have passed out of the hands of women, and would not had they been provided with instruction and opportunities for acquiring practical knowledge, as is the case in European countries. This enterprise is conducted by the "American Medical Education Society," under the patronage of which a number of intelligent females have already been educated. Persons wishing further information, or to render the society pecuniary aid, can call on, or correspond with, the secretary, Samuel Gregory, 25 Cornhill.

SALE OF CATTLE AND SHEEP.

We would call particular attention to the sale of fine Hereford cattle and Merino sheep, as advertised on our cover, of Messrs. Bingham.

A National Convention of the Friends of Education will be held at Philadelphia on the 22d day of August. This call is made by a large number of gentlemen distinguished for their talents and zeal in this cause, and we trust that there will be a hearty response from every part of the Union.

Present for the Fourth. — Mr. John Bridge, of Chelsea, and Mr. Geo. Thayer, of Randolph, presented us with boxes of fine strawberries for the fourth of July, which we neglected to acknowledge in our last number.

AGRICULTURAL HYMN.

Great God of Eden! 'twas thy hand
First clad earth in bloom,
And shed upon the smiling land
Nature's first rich perfume:
Fresh at thy glance the flowers sprang,
Kissed by the sun's first rays —
While plain, and hill, and valley rang
With life, and joy, and praise.

God of the Clouds! thy hands can ope
The fountains of the sky,
And on the expectant thirsty crop
Pour down the rich supply:
The farmer, when the seed-time's o'er,
Joys in the mercies given —
Thinks on thy promised harvest store,
And, smiling, looks to Heaven.

God of the Sheaf! to thee alone
Are due our thanks and praise,
When Harvest's grateful labor's done,
On Plenty glad we gaze:
Then shall our thoughts on Heaven rest;
Thy grace we will adore,
And thank that God, whose mercies blest
Our basket and our store.

THE OLIO.

A Hint to Bachelors. — A lady named Mary Ann Aldridge, had occasion to send a note to a gentleman, and put two r's into her first name in the signature, thus: "Marry Ann Aldridge." The man was a bachelor, and consequently took the hint: he married Ann Aldridge.

Science must be combined with practice to make a good farmer.

If you would be happy when old, be temperate while young.

When Prosperity was well mounted, she let go the bridle, and soon came tumbling out of the saddle.

TERMS. — The New England Farmer is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18¾ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

☞ The Postage ☜

On this paper is only 1 cent, or 26 cents a year, within the state, or within 100 miles out of the state; and 1½ cents, or 39 cents a year, beyond those distances.

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